

Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen, I would like to thank you for this opportunity to share my enthusiasm for wind energy in the state of Michigan. Allow me to introduce myself; my name is Scott Krohn from Bad Axe, Michigan. I represent Citizens for wind energy . CWE is a large diverse group of individuals who support wind energy development not only in Huron County but also in the state as well.

Huron county has been very blessed to have the first two wind farms operating in the state of Michigan as well as several others in various phases of development. The benefits that we have shared as a community as a whole have many different effects to our local economy. The most obvious benefit is the payment that the landowner receives but that is only the beginning. Those dollars are then circulated many more times which is a direct benefit to everyone. The largest benefit however is to the schools, libraries and roads through personal

property taxes. As you can see the economic benefits are very important but there are other benefits too.

My family has farmed the land in Huron County for three generations, as a result my family and I truly enjoy the beautiful landscape. Wind farms are another opportunity for land owners and farmers alike to grow a crop and still harvest the wind! Talk about a win win situation. preserving farmland and generating electricity what a wonderful concept. According to several developers Huron county alone has half of it's 576,000 acres signed up in leases. This could equate to \$82 million in lease payments. Agriculture is the number one industry in the state and these extra dollars would only boost it's standing. I am a firm believer in a market driven economy, all these funds generated will circulate many times over.

Another nice side benefit Huron County has seen is a major boost to the tourism industry. I have

relatives that live in the harvest wind farm in Elkton and they have constant traffic from onlookers. These people shop, eat and buy gas from local suppliers which is yet another benefit.

In conclusion these projects have been extremely positive for Huron County and the state as well. I urge you to continue with the current standards and allow progress in Michigan and across the country as well.

As a sidenote the personal property tax issue is a major hurdle to our local economies around the state. Please consider how the ppt affects our schools, libraries, roads and local government as well. If the ppt is eliminated I ask you to consider how these entities would be funded. When considering a possible replacement please consider all factors.

In closing I wish to thank you for this great opportunity.